

Dear FCC:

The airwaves belong to the people. I am appalled at what Sinclair is being permitted to do in airing a 90 minute political ad against Kerry just before the elections. It is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

I strongly urge you to prohibit Sinclair from forcing the airing of the ad on their stations.

Sincerely,

Woody Hastings